

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, May 18, 2009, 4:30pm, at Lilly Nature Center.

Present at said meeting were Garnet Peck, Mike Dana, Karen Springer, Mary Nauman, Richard Shockley and Attorney John Sorensen. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Chris Foley, Brenda Lorenz, Cheryl Kolb and Lee Booth represented the department. Council member Ann Hunt was also present. Council members Gerald Thomas and Gerry Keen were absent.

Garnet convened the Board at 4:35pm.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the minutes of the April 20, 2009 meeting. Mike motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Karen seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Superintendent – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report was included in the mailing

Assistant Superintendent – Pennie reported on the following:

- The City's new web site is now up and running. Our Department's web address is www.westlafayette.in.gov/parks.
- Coed and Men's League Softball started last Monday.
- The Mayor has raised \$10,900 to date for Global Fest. Another batch of request for fund's letters went out last week.
- A Purchase Order has been written for L&W Construction to perform the drain repairs at the pools so we comply with the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act of 2007. The work will be performed in the fall.

Parks – Lee reported on the following:

- Playground and trail Inspections were presented.
- Prepared the pool for the season; Health Department inspection will be tomorrow at 2 pm
- The Margerum fountain is up and running
- The rink leak was found under the skating pad. They have excavated down to the lines. Once it is repaired, it will be pressure tested to make sure all the leaks are fixed.
- Trail and sidewalk work in Tapawingo Park is complete
- Trying to keep up with the mowing

Recreation Report – Chris reported on the following:

- We are busy registering people for summer programs. Tennis lessons are filling fast; have added another session.
- Linda Owen was hired part-time to help with payment of claims and assist in the office. Linda will be working Noon – 4:30 pm
- Staff has been hired for summer programs
- Pool will open on Saturday, May 23 for the season. The annual Splash Bash celebration will be on Tuesday, May 26 from 1-4 pm with a special admission fee of \$1.

Morton Center – Brenda reported on the following:

- The registration totals for the winter/spring session at Morton was 1,366. Last year's total was 1,513. That is a 9.7% decrease from last year.
- The Mor'Dance Dance Recital was well attended on Saturday, May 2. We estimate that 800 people attended. The number does include approximately 200 dancers.
- Active Living and Senior Fun Day was held on Wednesday, May 13. Approximately 250 seniors attended the movie and visited the wellness booths in the lobby. Eighty seniors attended the free lunch at Columbian Park.
- The coalition for Living Well After 50 and Area IV Agency have published the third edition of it's Active Living Guide. Page 29 has information about Morton's fitness classes. There is also information about West Lafayette Parks and Trails in the back.
- I will be attending the Murdock Family Fun Night on Thursday, May 21, to help promote our programs.
- Morton will be closed Saturday, May 23, through Monday, May 25 for Memorial Day. Weather permitting, Morton's parking lot will be resealed and restriped that weekend.

Mary suggested that surveys or evaluations be distributed at the end of classes to maybe find out why attendance is decreasing. Joe commented that general surveys have been done in the past and the city is getting ready to redo the Strategic Plan for the City and the Departments Master Plan will be incorporated into that process.

Old Business**Park Board Tour**

The Park Board tour will leave City Hall parking lot at 1 pm on Thursday, May 21.

Sagamore West Farmers Market

Kathleen Mills asked for Board clarification on wine tasting at the Farmers Market. The Board agreed that wine tasting may be held the first Wednesday of the month and selling of bottled wine will be allowed during the other market days.

New Business**WALLA Request**

Dr. Ron Rolley, WALLA President gave background information about WALLA prior to Ellen Dran requesting permission from the Board to offer a wine appreciation/wine tasting class at Morton Community Center. WALLA would have to provide a current Certificate of Insurance to Brenda. They have checked with the State Excise Board and since the event is not open to the public, it is okay. It was suggested that serving of the wine stop thirty to forty-five minutes prior to the end of class. Mike proposed a motion to allow the wine tasting class for educational purposes and allow four-one ounce servings for up to eight classes. Mary seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Budget Information

Mary requested the opportunity to see the proposed budget for 2010. She feels she needs a better understanding of the processes in order to be a more effective board

member. Mary would like to motion the Board agree to a retreat sometime within the next three months to discuss the direction to move as a Board. Mary would like the Board to be more informed about what our Community's future is and how we are serving them. Garnet suggested she put together an agenda for such a meeting. She will bring information to next month's meeting. Richard offered to meet with Mary.

New Hires

Lee reported that Thomas Pridmore was hired as a Maintenance Tech II. Kyle Kiser was promoted from part-time to Maintenance Tech II. John Heitmiller was promoted from a Maintenance Tech II to Tech I. Mary motioned to approve the three positions. Mike seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Lilly Nature Center

Joe mentioned that new Family Environmental Fun Packs are now available at the Lilly Nature Center or from the Department's web site. They are half-day nature related activities.

We will also be changing out our water service at the Lilly Nature Center. Presently our water service is from a single small pipe that comes off the end of Palmer Drive. Now that University Place has been built, we have been able to set a meter so we could get a fire hydrant close to the building and will be changing out the water service. A water fountain will be installed outside.

We are working with Mulhaupt about the possibility of installing a buzzer for those that need assistance with opening the door to the Lilly Nature Center, as well as to make sure the door opener resistance meets ADA requirements.

West Lafayette School Board – Karen reported the following:

Budget concerns continue with lack of state budget passage. We need to reduce \$750-800,000 from our General Fund. Personnel costs make up 90% of General Fund. By State Statue, school corporations have 'rif' notification dates by Master Contract; last hired are the first rifed. At our May 6 meeting, we did 'rif' eight Cumberland and Happy Hollow Elementary teachers.

West Lafayette School Education Foundation has initiated a Secure Our Staff fundraising drive to accept donations that will be used for teachers. Many people are hosting Pacesetter Parties for this. Cumberland Parents organized Community Barbecue yesterday to raise funds. That event was very successful. Between all, almost \$100,000 has been raised – enough to call back two teachers.

With a favorable school funding formula when the state passes a two-year budget, federal stimulus money, continued Foundation efforts, plus already reconfigured staffing positions we hope to meet our goal of recalling all eight teachers for the 2009-10 school year.

Wabash River

There will be a WREC board meeting on Friday, May 22.

Other

Jan Myers attended the meeting and provided comments pertaining to the lack of accessibility in our parks and facilities. Mary requested that at the next Park Board that a report be given on ADA issues. Joe said that individual issues could be addressed and he would provide Mary with the ADA information from the previous master plan.

Joe noted that he has plans for viewing after the meeting about the new phase of the Purdue Research Park (Northwest quadrant of Kalberer and Yeager). It is laced with trails and greenways and shows lot assignments and the tie-in to Trailhead Park.

Pay Claims

Mike motioned for claims to be paid. Richard seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Adjourn

Mike motioned to adjourn the meeting. Richard seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Presiding Officer

Secretary